Education H. H (1948) Department.

M SERIES.

G.O. No.	1855 Education
Dated	26.7.1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
Education & P.H. Department,
Memorandum No.45389/G3/48-1, Education.

Sub: COLLEGES - American College, Madura - Dual principalship - Report called for.

It is understood that Sri A. Ranjithan and Sri K.E. Nainan are both claiming to be the Principal of the American College, Madura. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to obtain information by telegram and submit a report to Govt. immediately. Two paper cuttings relating to the matter are enclosed for persual and return.

M.V. Subramanian,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction,
Madras (with enclosures)

/True Copy/

Copy of letter R.C.No.332/D.2/48, dated 22-6-1948 from the Director of Public Instruction, addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, E. & P.H. Department,/ Madras.

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Ref: Government Memorandum No.45389/G.3/48-1, Education, dated the 21st June, 1948

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I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of letter dated 19th June 1948 from the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Madura, to the Hon'ble Minister for Education, explaining the present position in the college. In the circumstances explained by the Divisional Inspector, I am of the opition that no action is necessary at present

sd.x x x,
for Director of Public Instrn.

/True Copy/

Copy of letter dated 19th June 1948 from the Divisional Inspector of Schools, Madura to the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Madras.

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Ref: American College, Madura - Letter dated the 16th June, 1948 from the Hon'ble Minister for Education.

I have already submitted a report in my letter dated 11th February 1948 regarding the attempts made by the American Board to oust Mr. Ranjitham, from the post of Principal. The Governing Council of the College at its meeting held on the 31st Janary 1948 agreed that Mr. Ranjitham might retire from the post at the end of the academic year 1948-49. Mr. Ranjitham expressed a desire to retire and it was accepted by the Governing Council at its meeting held on 31st January 1948.

The above resolution of the Government Council was sent the American Board (Boston) which exercises a revisionary power over the college administration.

On 13th April 1948 the Secretary of the American Board sent a letter to the President of the Governing Council (The Rev. White) suggesting that Mr. Ranjitham might go on leave from 1st June 1948 for one year with pay. The following is an extract from the letter of the Secretary of the American Board:-

> Mr. Ranjitham has worked very hard during the last five years which have been a difficult time in the life of the country and in the life of the college. In parti-

P.T.O....

cular, he has done much the build up the physical plant of the college and there are several buildings which will stand us monument to his resourcefulness and energy. This is appreciated by us as we know it is by you and fitting recognition should be given to Mr. Ranjitham for his untiring efforts. It is also fitting that he has some rest with remuneration prior to MI retirement"

Mr. Ranjitham has not applied for leave and his contention is that the American Boare (Boston) cannot force him to go on leave and that the matter should be considered by the Governing Council of the College. The President of the Governing Council issued notice to convene a meeting on 31st May 1948 to consider the letter of thenSecretary of the American Board, but the meeting had to be abandoned as it was not convened properly. The American Board asked Mr. Ranjitham to hand over charge on 1st June 1948 to Mr. Nainan, Vice-Principal; Mr. Ranjitham declined to hand over charge. The trouble ~~again~~ began and parallel administration commenced from 1st June 1948.

Mr. Ranjitham refused to hand over charge and he began to admit candidates; the burser (the Rev.E.L. Nolting) refused to accept the college fees taken by Mr. Ranjitham; Mr.Nainan was put up as Principal on the strength of the cable from America. This created confusion and pupils found it difficult to get the transfer certificates, conduct certificates etc. On account of pressure the clerks of the office stayed and they did not work under Mr. Ranjitham. Postal letters addressed to the Principal were held up and the Imperial Bank refused to honour bills. The atmosphere was really bad - this situation was created by the American Board (Boston). Realising the situation and the inconvenience caused to the pupils, Mr. Ranjitham applied for leave from the 10th June to the 2nd July and handed over charge to Mr. Naina, Vice-Principal. This eased the situation and from the 10th June the atmosphere is normal and admissions are being made as usual.

The Governing Council of the College is meeting on the 3rd July to consider the question. Since the situation has become nromal, there is no need for the Government to interfere at present.

NOTE FILE.

Secretary, E. & P.H.

Please see herewith a note from Sri P.N. Chamu Nair, Divisional Inspector of Schools, Madura Division, about the affairs of the American College, Madura. The points to be considered in this are:-

(i) when there is quarrel between two parties in the management, whether the Governmenthave power to interfere and arrange for the normal working of the college; and

(ii) A. on page 10 of the Divisional Inspector's note.

I see from the letter that the affairs of this college have, somehow, been settled though its prestige has greatly suffered by this quarrel. But our position must be clear when such a quarrel, occur as they may occur in Missioniary institutions in the future in view of the changed circumstances in the country and so, we must have the matter examined and the position made clear.

(sd).T.S.A.,
23-6-48.
(H.M.Education)

It does not seem that the Government have power to interfere in the working of an aided institution except that they can make suggestions and withhold Government-aid if the suggestions are not accepted.. The Divisional Inspector has suggested that the Governing Council of the College in India should have complete control over the administration of the college and that the interference of the American Board should be stopped. In forwaring a copy of the Divisional Inspector's report, the Director of Public Instruction has not offered any remarks on the Divisional Inspector's suggestion referred to. Perhaps Director of Public Instructon's remarks may be called for. This may be circulated to H.M.(Education).

Please see the next page.
sd.x xx
6-7-48

Education & P.H. Deptt.

In the case disposed of at flag 'N', there was a dispute among the members of the managing committee of the Veerasingham Theistic High School, Rajahmundry. They also appealed to the High Court. The D.P.I. withdrew the recognition of the High School and then restored it subsequently.

In the present case, recogntion may be suspended or withdraw only by the University of Madras, as the American College, Madura, is an affiliated college. The power to grant recognition to a college or withdraw or supsend the recognition once granted is vested in the Senate - vide Section 4 A(9),16(10) and 35(3) of the Madras Univeristy Act, 1923. The conditions of affiliation are prescrbed by statutes. These are embodied at page 304-307 of the University Calender, Volume I. The conditions inter alia provide that there should be a managing body, that the change in the managing body should be reported to the Syndicate, that the Syndicate should be satisfied with the character and qualifications and adequacy of teaching staff and that all appointments on the teaching staff should be reported to the Syndicate which shall satisfy itself that they meet the requirements of the University and that the institution is subjedt to inspection from time to time by one or more persons appointed by the Syndicate. Thus the question of temporary suspension or withdraw of recognition or any such action should apprently be taken by the University authorities, with reference to provisions cited above.

3.Rule 42 of the Grant-in-Aid Code is extracted below:-

"Reservation of control by Government:-As a condition of the continuance of the grant or any portion thereof, the Government reserve to themselves the right to prescribe any particular line

of action to be taken by the management in regard to any matter affecting the College".

It does not appear that this provision has been invoked in recent years.

The Director of Public Instruction does not consider that any further action is necessary in this case.

The file may be circulated to H.M.(Edn.)

The file may be re-circulated to H.M.(Education)

sd. M.V.S.,
17-7-48

H.M. (Education) Sd. T.S.A.
23-7-48

For orders whether the papers may be recorded.

sd.x x x,
23-7-48

G.O.Ms.No.1855, Education, dated 26th July 1948.

Sub: College - Aided Colleges - Powers of interference in cases of quarrel about management, etc. - Papers - Recorded.

/TRUE COPY/

RS/27/1/1954.

a OFFICE ASSISTANT,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.